

Hazardous-devices teams showcase skills at Robot Rodeo June 14-17

June 9, 2016



Bomb squads compete in timed scenarios at Los Alamos National Laboratory

LOS ALAMOS, N.M., June 9, 2016—Hazardous-devices teams from around the Southwest will wrangle their bomb-squad robots at the tenth annual Robot Rodeo beginning Tuesday, June 14, at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

“The Robot Rodeo gives bomb-squad teams the opportunity to practice and hone their skills in a lively but low-risk setting,” said Chris Ory of the Emergency Response Group at Los Alamos and a member the Laboratory’s hazardous-devices team. Los Alamos’ participation and support of the Robot Rodeo also aligns with its goal of fostering excellence in science and engineering disciplines essential for national security missions.

The event begins at 8 a.m. in Technical Area 49, a remote section of Laboratory property near the entrance to Bandelier National Monument. Ten teams are scheduled to participate in the three-day competition. Teams compete in events and simulations, such as:

- Rendering safe terrorist-type devices.
- Recovering stolen radioactive materials.
- Navigating obstacle courses.
- Investigating a possible homemade-explosives lab.
- Operating in confined spaces such as aircraft or railcars.
- Using common hand tools to disable a device.
- Attacking and rendering safe large vehicle bombs.
- Dealing with suicide bombers.

Teams scheduled to participate in this year's event include Albuquerque Police Department; Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office; Farmington Police Department; Los Alamos Police Department; Military Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams from Kirtland AFB, Holloman AFB, Davis-Monthan AFB and Fort Carson; New Mexico State Police and a Southern California Regional Team.

The Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories, the Region II International Association of Bomb Technicians and Investigators, REMOTEC, WMD Tech and NABCO sponsor the Robot Rodeo.

[Watch a video](#) of the 2012 Robot Rodeo at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Note: News media organizations interested in attending the Robot Rodeo should contact the Laboratory's Communications Office at (505) 667-7000 to make arrangements to travel to the site.

Los Alamos National Laboratory

www.lanl.gov

(505) 667-7000

Los Alamos, NM

Operated by Los Alamos National Security, LLC for the Department of Energy's NNSA

